

IDEALIST

18.21
IDEA 0452-67
Copy 7 of 10

29 June 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Special Activities

SUBJECT: IDEALIST Operational Critique - Operation
SCOPE SAFE 10 and 11 July 1967

1. This memorandum contains a recommendation for the approval of the Director of Special Activities. Such recommendation is contained in paragraph 5.

25X1A6a 2. The recent SCOPE SAFE operation provided an excellent chance to evaluate the [REDACTED] detachment while operating in a new and unique situation and under the most difficult of conditions. This operation, while successful in so far as it went, brought to light several problem areas that should be considered prior to any future IDEALIST deployments.

3. These areas (some of which cannot be solved within OSA) will be the main topic of discussion during a 10 and 11 July meeting in this Headquarters. In general these problem areas are: political limitations on deploying U-2's, cover stories and press releases, excessive and unnecessary support requirements, the limitations of present communications systems (reports as well as equipment).

4. This deployment emphasized that Detachment G must be capable of deploying a U-2 to and from a foreign air base as quickly and quietly as possible and with the minimum amount of supporting equipment. Therefore, a reassessment of Detachment G deployment procedures must be made to establish new ground rules for use of U-2's on a fast moving crisis situation [REDACTED]. The purpose of the 10 and 11 July meeting is for general discussion and implementation of these new ground rules.

25X1D0a 5. To make the meeting meaningful it is recommended that the D/SA approve the following as the new concept for Detachment G deployments:

a. The basic concept for deployment of the Detachment G:

One U-2, one camera, and minimum personnel and equipment as required to support one operational mission. This will be designated as a Phase One Deployment and will

IDEALIST

~~SECRET~~
IDEALIST

IDEA 0452-67
Page 2

be generally limited to less than 14 days TDY.
NOTE: To limit the support requirements for a deployment of this type, heavy items such as fuel, carrier landing wires, engine stands, tow bars and like equipment will be pre-positioned at various locations throughout the world. As visualized by the undersigned, this type deployment would consist of approximately 20-25 personnel, 20,000 lbs of equipment and one support aircraft.

25X1A6a b. If after the Phase One Deployment has been completed and should the situation at the operating location change (i.e., a requirement for additional missions, or a camera change, or TDY of more than 14 days), additional equipment, personnel, etc., would be deployed to augment the Phase One Deployment team and kit as required. This would be designated as a Phase Two Deployment and would occur sometime after Phase One has departed the [REDACTED] area. The totals of Phase One and Two should be approximately 40 personnel, 30,000-40,000 lbs of equipment and two support aircraft.

c. If subsequent to the Phase Two Deployment the situation dictates the forward detachment remain in place at the operating area for a period of more than 21 days, additional personnel and equipment, etc., (Phase Three) would be deployed to augment the Phase One and Two Deployment kits. The total weight, cube, personnel and support aircraft for Phase Three is indefinite and therefore, would be as is required.

d. Should prior information direct the detachment be deployed for a long period of time and for many missions, then the kits/teams of all three of the deployment phases would be deployed at the same time.

e. In all cases (Phase One, Two or Three), only one U-2 would be deployed. It is felt that the aircraft/engine systems have a proven reliability to a point that a back-up mission aircraft is not required. In any case, a second aircraft or engine could be flown from [REDACTED] to the operating area with a minimum amount of lost time.

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IDEALIST
~~SECRET~~

IDEALIST

IDEA 0452-67

Page 3

6. Under the operational concept briefly described in paragraph 5. above, staff actions would be required of Communications, Security, Cover, Materiel and Comptroller to modernize and streamline the over-all detachment deployment capability. If approved, the Deputy for Operations will take the initiative on the staff actions required to implement this plan in the shortest possible time. The 10 and 11 July meeting will be the first of these Staff actions. Attachment I is the proposed agenda for this meeting.

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for
Deputy for Operations, OSA

Attachment - 1
As stated

The recommendation contained in paragraph 5. is approved:

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Acting Director of Special Activities

CONCUR: 25X1A9a

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Deputy for Materiel, OSA

Special Assistant to the
Director of Special Activities

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Chief, Security Staff, OSA

Comptroller, OSA

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for Deputy for Research and Development, OSA

Chief, IDEALIST Division, O/OSA

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IDEALIST

IDEA 0452-67
Page 4

25X1A9a

SAS/O/OSA/[REDACTED] :bm(29 June 67)

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